



Arlington Human Rights Commission Agenda

Date: *February 20, 2019*

Time: *8:00-10:00 p.m.*

Location: *Jefferson Cutter House, 611 Massachusetts Ave, Arlington, MA 02474*

Present: Commissioners Christine Carney, Kristen Bauer, Nick Minton, Gary Horowitz, Kristina Fontanez, Betsy Carlton-Gysan, and Sharon Grossman, and Co-Chairs Naomi Greenfield and David Swanson

Absent: Commissioners Christopher Huvos, Sheri Baron, William Logan

Guests: Christine Bongiorno, Acting Police Chief Julie Flaherty, Communities for Restorative Justice Executive Director Erin FreeBorn, Laura Kiesel, Rose Udics, Brooks Harrelson, Erik Pohl, Louise Popkin, Kevin Heaton

Co-Chair Swanson called the meeting to order at 8:04pm.

1. Check-in / Meeting Roles (8:00PM-8:05PM | 5mins.)

2. Commissioner Updates (8:10PM-8:20PM | 10mins.)

- Commissioner Grossman provided an update on her conversation with Arlington Public Art about a project on inclusivity.
- Co-Chair Greenfield shared buttons that were distributed at the Double Take event.
- Motion was made by Commissioner Minton, seconded by Commissioner Bauer to move Citizens Open Forum to the beginning of the meeting. All voted in favor.

3. Citizens Open Forum (9:30PM-9:45PM | 15mins.)

- Guest Laura Kiessel discussed a non-binding resolution that will be presented to Town Meeting to waive the overnight parking ban. Guest Kiessel asked the AHRC to support the resolution. It was noted that the Diversity Task Group and Select Board are in support.
- Co-Chair Swanson suggested that the AHRC receive more info, including the language of the resolution.
- Commissioner Bauer agreed to coordinate with Guest Kiessel on obtaining more info about the resolution for the Commission.
- Guest Revilak discussed the multi-family zoning articles that will be coming before Town Meeting. His comments were meant to express concern about what the motivation was for the Town's original zoning laws and to raise awareness about the pending Town Meeting zoning articles.
- Guest Heaton expressed interest in an Indigenous Peoples Day resolution.

- Guest Harrelson, as part of the Diversity Task Group and Rainbow Commission, discussed bullying policies and bystander training in schools. A donation was requested to help support this effort.

4. Minutes Approval (8:05PM-8:10PM | 5mins.)

- Commissioner Carney moved that the minutes be tabled until next month. Commissioner Bauer seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

5. Welcome and Discussion with Chief Julie Flaherty

- Chief Flaherty introduced herself to the Commission and said she looked forward to APD's continued partnership with the Commission.
- Chief Flaherty provided the Commission with an update regarding Lt. Pedrini's situation, explaining that the Town and APD and Lt. Pedrini have agreed to pursue Restorative Justice in response to Lt. Pedrini's recent writings in a statewide police association newsletter.
- Chief Flaherty reported to the Commission on the several hate crimes and incidents in Arlington during 2018.

6. Correspondence/Incidents/Complaints

- Co-Chair Greenfield reported a recent racial slur incident in Town and said that she would ask a Commissioner to volunteer via email to take the lead in responding to the incident.

Commissioner Carney made a motion to table all of the remaining items. Commissioner Minton seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

Co-Chair Swanson adjourned the meeting at 9:57pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Grossman